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THE
HEALTH
OF
SANDDOWN
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1970





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SANDOWN-SHANKLIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

1970 - 1971

Chairman - Mrs. E.M. Rogers, C.C.

Chairman of the Council - D.H. Price, Esq.

Vice Chairman of the Council - E.G.A. Carpenter, Esq.

Vice Chairman of the Committee - H. Welburn, Esq.

Capt. G.W. Buttle

A.H. Driver, Esq.

D.R. Clare, Esq.

J. Hooper, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTAL STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

D.W. QUANTRILL, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
D.R.C.O.G., D.T.M.&H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Housing Officer

Shops Inspector

Petroleum Inspector

NEVILLE L.G. TUBB, D.P.A.(Lond.), M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (1,2,3(Hons.) & 4)

Additional Public Health Inspector

R.P. ALLMAN, M.A.P.H.I. (1,2 & 5)

1. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute
2. Meat and Food Inspectors Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
3. Diploma of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene
4. Certificate of Sanitary Science of the Royal Sanitary Institute
5. Smoke Inspectors Diploma, Royal Society of Health.

Student Public Health Inspector

N. FRAMPTON - (Sandwich course at Highbury Technical College, Portsmouth).

Technical Assistant

G.M. BATEMAN

Clerk

MISS L.A. STEVENS

Rodent Operator

MR. R. COURTNEY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1970

To the Chairman and Committee Members

MADAM CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for 1970.

There were 141 births compared with 160 for the previous year but the comparative birth rate (16.1) was still a fraction above the national figure (16.0). There were sixteen illegitimate births and the illegitimacy rate for the District (11.3%) was still above the rate for England and Wales (8.0%). During the year the County Council arranged for an investigation of the high illegitimacy rates on the Island.

The number of deaths recorded (209) was less than the previous year (245) and the comparative death rate (8.7) was below the mainland figure (11.7). There were only two infant deaths. Of the adult deaths, thirteen were due to lung cancer but the biggest killer was again coronary heart disease which accounted for over a third of the total.

Three hundred and sixty-one cases of measles were notified. This was one of the highest figures on record but as this disease is now comparatively mild the outbreak was of no significance. Children are no longer excluded from school for two or three weeks. There is now a much more reasonable attitude to such infection and some are back at school at the end of a week providing they are fit.

Once again there were no cases of food poisoning notified and as in previous years every effort was made by the Health Department to maintain high standards of food hygiene in the District. The Inspectors made nearly a thousand visits to food premises and this was quite an achievement in view of their many other commitments. If holiday-makers were aware of the high standards of hygiene we aim at in Sandown and Shanklin they would think twice about taking their families abroad, particularly to parts of Southern Europe, where the chances of suffering stomach upsets are very high.

Rodent control was another branch of Public Health which was again dealt with with great diligence, and your Rodent Operator, Mr. Courtney has continued his high standard of work.

In 1970 there was still a long waiting list for Council houses and there was still a number of sick people whose health would benefit by more suitable housing. In an era when more and more people are owning cars and television sets and when more and more people can afford holidays abroad it seems incongruous that still too many people are unsuitably housed. In the interests of health it is hoped that the day when the demand for Council houses can be met is within the realms of possibility.

Since I came to the Island in 1963, I have been Medical Officer of Health for Ryde, Sandown and Shanklin, and Ventnor. In 1970 I was appointed Medical Officer of Health to the other three districts - Newport, Cowes and the Rural District, as well. I was thereby made Medical Officer of Health to the whole Island. I am the first doctor to hold this joint appointment and oddly enough with the re-organisation of local government I may be the last. The Medical Officer of Health is to become a Community Physician under the new arrangements but perhaps this will be only a change in terminology.

In conclusion, I would like to express my appreciation for the high standard of work carried out by the Department and the support given me by the Health Committee.

Yours faithfully,

DOUGLAS QUANTRILL

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Number of domestic premises	5,079
Number of commercial and other premises	1,697
Rateable Value (as at 1.4.70.)	£799,772
Sum represented by 1d. rate (1969/70)	£3,216

Meteorological Statistics 1970

	<u>Sunshine</u>		<u>Rainfall</u>	
	<u>Sandown</u>	<u>Shanklin</u>	<u>Sandown</u>	<u>Shanklin</u>
January	39.9	36.8	5.09	5.58
February	117.2	119.7	2.71	2.92
March	132.1	138.1	2.53	2.93
April	139.7	169.4	2.52	3.02
May	250.7	268.5	1.55	1.50
June	262.8	303.3	0.73	1.63
July	232.3	247.0	2.49	2.35
August	220.9	220.7	2.49	2.98
September	194.6	191.9	3.50	3.67
October	122.2	128.1	1.48	1.23
November	71.6	63.8	9.19	9.49
December	67.4	68.6	1.40	1.91
Totals	<u>1,851.4</u>	<u>hrs. 1,955.9</u>	<u>35.68</u>	<u>inches 39.21</u>

Since statistics have been maintained in the District it was the coldest April, the warmest June and the wettest November on record.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	Sandown- <u>Shanklin U.D.C.</u>				<u>England and Wales</u>
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate)	...	14,340			
<u>BIRTHS</u>					
No. of live legitimate births	<u>M</u> 73	<u>F</u> 52	...	125	
No. of live illegitimate births	8	8	...	16	
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	...	9.8	16.0
Comparative factor (births)	...	...	...	1.64	1.0
Comparative Birth Rate	...	...	...	16.07	16.0
No. of legitimate stillbirths	-	-	...	-	
No. of illegitimate stillbirths	1	-	...	1	
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths				7.0	13.0
Total live and stillbirths	...	...	...	142	
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	11.3	8.0

DEATHS

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>		<u>Sandown- Shanklin U.D.C.</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
Total No. of Deaths ...	92	117	... ..	209	
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population				14.6	11.7
Comparative Factor (Deaths)				0.60	1.0
Comparative Death Rate				8.7	11.7
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)				Nil	
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births				Nil	
No. of deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year of age	2	-	... ..	2	
No. of deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year of age				Nil	
Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births				14.2	18.0
Death Rate legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				16.0	17.0
Death Rate illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				Nil	26.0
Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births				7.1	12.0
Early Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births				Nil	11.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths				7.0	23.0

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Malignant neoplasm, Buccal cavity, etc.	1	-
" " , Oesophagus	1	-
" " , Stomach	1	1
" " , Intestine	4	4
" " , Lung, bronchus	6	7
" " , Breast	-	5
" " , Uterus	-	5
" " , Prostate	1	-
Other malignant neoplasms	7	6
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	1	-
Diabetes mellitus	-	2
Anaemias	-	1
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	1	-
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	1
Ischaemic heart disease	35	26
Other forms of heart disease	3	13
Cerebrovascular disease	14	29
Other diseases of circulatory system	5	5
Influenza	1	-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Pneumonia	1	3
Bronchitis and emphysema	1	2
Asthma	-	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1
Peptic ulcer	2	-
Cirrhosis of liver	1	-
Other diseases of digestive system	1	1
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	1	-
Congenital anomalies	1	-
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	-	2
All other accidents	1	1
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	-
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TOTAL: All Causes	92	117
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Notifications of Infectious Diseases
Received during 1970

<u>Ages</u>	<u>Scarlet Fever</u>	<u>Measles</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis</u>
Under 1 year	-	2	-
1 & under 2	-	23	-
2 & under 3	1	36	-
3 & under 4	-	29	-
4 & under 5	-	66	-
5 & under 10	1	194	-
10 & under 15	-	10	-
15 & under 25	-	1	1
25 & under 35	-	-	-
35 & over	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	2	361	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

No cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT,
67A HIGH STREET,
SHANKLIN,
ISLE OF WIGHT.

To the Chairman and Committee Members

MADAM CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

1970, the year to which this report refers was National Conservation Year. One wonders whether the efforts made and publicity undertaken to bring the subject to the attention of the public in all its many aspects, will have any worthwhile lasting effects or whether it will be unable to survive apathy and the multiplicity of other problems and uncertainties that exist particularly in the field of Local Government.

In this district, being a holiday resort, but with an ever growing number of elderly residents, the Council are always faced with a major problem. It is that of striking a balance between endeavouring to compete as a resort effectively by providing better and additional amenities and accommodation for visitors and yet of preserving the character of the area and provide housing for permanent residents both native and immigrant. The economic factors which must govern such policy decisions are also complex.

It is mainly in the sphere of providing and maintaining adequate accommodation together with acceptable environmental conditions for both visitors and residents that the work of the department discovers the shortcomings and highlights the problems.

During the year the Council's policy necessitated a re-organisation of duties within the department. Mr. G.M. Bateman ceased to be Technical Assistant for Offices & Shops and general duty and became full time Housing Assistant. The O.S. & R. work was assimilated as a general departmental responsibility.

The details and statistics in the following report show the advantage of having the services of Mr. Frampton available for almost the whole year. The work done particularly in the sphere of Food Hygiene showed a very substantial increase despite the additional work load in regard to Improvement Grants.

This my eighteenth annual report on the work undertaken during 1970 is submitted as a separate section by courtesy of Dr. D.W. Quantrill, Medical Officer of Health.

My appreciation is recorded of the services rendered by my deputy Mr. R.P. Allman and Mr. G.M. Bateman, Mr. N. Frampton, Miss L.A. Stevens and Mr. R. Courtney.

I am also grateful to the Chairman, Committee members and other members of Council for their interest and encouragement.

The co-operation and assistance of and happy relationship with colleagues in other departments is also acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,

N.L.G. TUBB

Chief Public Health Inspector & Housing Officer.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The Isle of Wight River and Water Authority, an adhoc body upon which all Island Local Authorities are represented, are responsible for the provision of public water supplies throughout the Island.

Sandown and Lake

This area is supplied from sources at Dyers Springs, Newchurch and from the River Yar.

Treatment comprising pre-chlorination, coagulation with alum, settlement, filtration, activated carbon treatment and post chlorination is carried out at the Sandown Waterworks.

Shanklin

The main sources for this area of supply are the catchments at Greatwoods and Cowlease.

Some fringe areas receive supplies from Sandown, Chillerton and Wroxall by interconnection of supply mains. Water from all sources is treated.

Luccombe Village

This part of the district is supplied with water derived from St. Boniface Down which is treated, pumped to reservoirs above the village and then gravitates to the mains.

Sampling

I am indebted to the Engineer and Manager of the Isle of Wight River and Water Authority for the following statistics showing the results of samples taken for bacteriological examination from the various sources in the district.

Satisfactory	71
Suspicious	4
Unsatisfactory	6

General

With the exception of one isolated cottage with a well supply and one large private house with its own supply and treatment plant, all premises in the Urban District are connected to a mains supply.

No properties are supplied from standpipes.

The latest available statistics show there are 5,079 domestic premises in the district and the resident population is 14,340 (Registrar Generals' estimate June 1970).

During the year the adequacy and quality of the water supplies was satisfactory although the exceptionally heavy seasonal demand at peak hours does result in reduced pressure in small areas of the district. This is a matter which is improving as a result of progressive improvements by the Water Board.

In November a diesel oil supply pipe fractured overnight allowing diesel oil to percolate into tanks at Sandown waterworks. A considerable quantity of contaminated water reached the reservoirs and mains before it was realised that anything was wrong.

Immediate steps were taken by the Water Board to flush out all contaminated mains etc. but it was several days before normal conditions prevailed.

This department received many complaints. Information as to the cause, and action being taken etc. was given. The amount of contamination was such that there was no public health danger but even very small amounts produced a thoroughly unpalatable water with an objectionable odour.

The natural fluoride content of the supply in this district is less than 0.1 ppm. No fluoride was added to the water.

Apart from the complaints referred to above, only four other complaints were received during the year. Two referred to excess chlorine and two to alleged inadequate pressure. In all cases the complaints were promptly dealt with by the Water Authority.

Swimming Pools

There are now no swimming pools in the Urban District open for use by the general public.

There are however twelve swimming pools. Nine of these are situated in hotel grounds, one at a private school and two at primary schools. Plans have also been submitted for the provision of pools at two more hotels.

In all cases except one, treatment and circulation plants are installed.

Sewerage and Drainage

Sandown sewage works receives and treats sewage from the whole of the Urban District.

Following treatment the effluent is discharged to sea at favourable states of the tide by an extended outfall.

Despite the fact that in the main the system is 'combined', works of improvement in recent years have removed most of the problems arising from old sewers becoming surcharged in times of heavy rain.

A further large contribution to this end will result from the large diameter surface water sewer at present under construction through the centre of Sandown which will discharge to a new sea outfall and thus considerably reduce the amount of surface water reaching the sewage works.

Further surveys, both by the department and by the Councils consultants carried out during the year will form the basis for further improvements to the sewerage system in the capital works programme, the phasing of which is governed by the general economic situation.

Drainage

a) Public Sewers (subject to Sec. 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936)

Works necessitating repair, renewal and improvement of five such sewers serving two, three, two, four and six properties respectively were undertaken during 1970.

In addition the local authority undertook clearing in respect of a further three such sewers.

b) Private Drains

The repair, renewal, alteration and clearance of private drains together with inspection and investigation necessitated 397 visits during the year.

Public Cleansing

A weekly refuse collection service for the district is provided throughout the year.

This is augmented during the seasonal months on a contract and charge basis for additional collections. Despite initial opposition to the scale of charges the demand for extra collections increases each year and proves beneficial particularly on public health grounds.

With few minor exceptions the variety of methods of short term storage available, plus the availability of multiple collections removes almost all problems associated with refuse collection and storage and makes the ban on incineration realistic.

In addition to the foregoing a trade refuse collection service on a recharge basis is operated as also is a limited amount of special collection work, but this at present has to be strictly limited according to availability of suitable transport and adequate manpower.

The year under review will in all probability be the last for disposal of refuse by controlled tipping on marsh land at Sandown.

Arrangements have been concluded with Ryde Borough Council whereby all domestic refuse will be taken to their new pulverisation plant at Nettlestone.

Apart from non putrescible refuse and small amounts of miscellaneous refuse the Sandown tip will be discontinued and works undertaken to seal down and consolidate the area.

Caravan, Chalet and Camping Sites

(a) Licensed Caravan Sites

There are six licensed caravan sites in the district:-

	<u>Sites</u>	<u>Vans</u>
Sandown	4	315
Shanklin	2	330
	<u>6</u>	<u>645</u>

A high standard of amenities including shop, licensed clubs, T.V. and games rooms, laundries, etc., exists on all sites.

The past seasons' statistics again show the continued popularity of this form of self catering holiday accommodation.

Only one complaint was received during the year despite the fact that there were over 7,500 bookings.

(b) Individual Caravans

Despite publicity given to the law governing which caravans are exempt and which are not; a considerable amount of time and expense is wasted because people will not trouble to enquire before involving themselves in what is often abortive expenditure.

(c) Chalets

There are three chalet sites in operation in the district, all situated at Sandown.

They provide 92, 62 and 36 chalets respectively a total of 190.

During the year approval was given to a site for 10 chalets at Shanklin and this will probably be in use for the 1971 season.

Chalets on all sites are self contained and provide a good standard of self catering accommodation.

(d) Tents

There are now seven sites, licensed under Sec. 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936:-

	<u>Maximum Pitches</u>
Sandown Site 1	140
Sandown Site 2	100
Sandown Site 3	20
Lake Site 4	15
Shanklin Site 5	150
Shanklin Site 6	100
Shanklin Site 7	125
	<hr/>
	650 pitches
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Six of the seven sites are provided with main drainage. All seven have toilet blocks with water carriage drainage.

At four of the sites all the amenities provided on adjoining licensed caravan sites are available to campers.

Although the incidence of short stay touring campers using a diversity of mobile equipment is felt less on the Island than in many areas on the mainland, nevertheless problems arise which the present law is inadequate to deal with.

In 1968 a Working Party was set up by the Government to examine present deficiencies and to suggest an elastic system of control for the growing demands of touring campers of all types. I have had the honour of being a member of that Working Party as the representative of the Association of Public Health Inspectors.

The work of the party has now been completed and its final report is in draft. It is hoped that the Minister will endeavour to implement its findings as soon as Parliamentary time permits.

Offices and Shops

The services of the Technical Assistant originally appointed for duties under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, ceased w.e.f. April 1st, 1970. From that date all work under the Act became the full responsibility of the Public Health Inspectors.

During the year under review the total visits made were:-

Offices	27
Retail Shops	102
Wholesale Depots	5
Catering Establishments	36
Advice Visits	35
	<u>205</u>

Arising from the above, notice of contravention was served in 7 cases and compliance effected in 6 cases.

During the year no accidents were reported and no new registrations were received.

The statistics as at 31st December, 1970 are shown in the following table:

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Registered in 1970</u>	<u>Total now registered</u>	<u>Inspected in 1970</u>	<u>Persons employed</u>
Offices	0	71	27	339
Retail Shops	0	249	102	853
Wholesale Depots	0	5	5	21
Catering Establishments	0	110	36	795
Fuel Storage Depots	0	2	0	7
TOTAL	0	437	170	2,015

Total Males Employed 772

Total Females Employed 1,243

Rodent Control

A rodent control service for the whole district is provided by the Department.

No charge is made for treatment of bona fide domestic premises but all other rodent control work is undertaken at contract fee or on a time and materials basis.

The total of 138 contracts for fees totalling £633 is again the highest both in number and amount since the service began.

During the year 291 complaints were received (260 re rats and 31 re mice). This showed a slight decrease on the previous years figures but the total visits made by the Rodent Operator 4,122 was 718 more than in 1969 and in addition 128 visits were made by Public Health Inspectors for rodent control.

The following table shows the result of the visits made.

	<u>Type of Property</u>	
	<u>Non-Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
1. Number of Properties in the district	6,446	17
2. a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	382	4
b) Number infested by i) Rats	286	3
ii) Mice	32	2
3. a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	702	1
b) Number infested by i) Rats	96	1
ii) Mice	16	-

Advice was also given in cases where complaints were received in respect of mole and rabbit infestation but the department do not undertake work regarding these pests.

Exhibition

The department provided a stand at the Island Exhibition arranged by the Natural History Society in connection with Conservation Year.

A variety of exhibits were shown covering various aspects of the department's work.

Insect Pest Control

For the second year in succession the total complaints in regard to insect infestation (excluding vermin) showed a decrease.

47 complaints were received in respect of the following 41 infestations:-

Infestation of cockroaches	32
Infestation of flies	2
Infestation of other insects	7
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	41
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The Public Health Inspectors made 102 visits in regard to insect pest control and 206 visits were made for treatments and reinspections.

Verminous Premises

There were 10 complaints of verminous infestation during the year. Five of these were of fleas and one of bed bugs.

One house in a terrace became infested with fleas and as a result the remaining houses became cross infested.

The sole case of bed bugs, was in a bedroom of a staff house.

Noise Abatement Act 1960

During the year six complaints were received concerning alleged noise nuisances.

Notice was served in only two cases but in two further cases, mitigation was achieved by persuasion and co-operation.

In the remaining two cases the circumstances were such that the complaints were advised to lay a formal complaint themselves.

In addition to the above a number of enquiries were made as to what action, if any, was possible in regard to noise from late night traffic, persons shouting, etc., outside premises.

It is a popular misconception that such incidents are statutory nuisances whereas they are almost invariably annoying and maybe matters upon which the Police can take some action but do not come within the scope of the Noise

Abatement Act.

Pet Animals Act

As in 1969 only one shop was licensed under the above Act.

Pets are supplied to order and only fish and cage birds are kept on the premises.

Talks and Courses

Six talks on subjects relating to Public Health were given to various organisations and senior schoolchildren.

No educational courses were held during the past year.

Courses

During the year the Council authorised members of the department to attend a two day course on Pest Control at Highbury Technical College and a seven day course on 'Radiation in Health' promoted by the Wiltshire County Council.

Complaints

There was a decrease in the number of formal complaints, received during the year, the majority of the decrease being in regard to rodent infestations.

The broad classification of the complaints is given in the following table. These figures do not include written or verbal requests for information and/or advice.

1970 Complaints

Sanitary defects	24
Drainage	32
Public Sewers (Sec. 24)	5
Refuse Collection and Storage	7
Offensive Odours	50
Accumulations	7
Insect Infestations (all)	51
Smoke and Atmospheric Pollution	13

Noise	6
Keeping of Animals	4
Water Supply	31
Food Soundness	13
Food Hygiene	8
Rodent Infestations	291
Miscellaneous	8
	<hr/>
TOTAL	550
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Housing

During the year a further two closing orders were made on two semi-detached cottages.

In the early part of the year prior to the season, priority was given to routine inspections of older properties under the Housing Acts necessitating 143 initial visits and 49 revisits.

Little if any progress can be made in rehousing from properties ultimately due for demolition until further units of Council housing are available and allocated for this purpose.

A more definite estimate as to when this will be possible can be made when the allocation, of the units at present under construction at Flitcroft, is made during 1971.

During 1970 no new units became available and only 12 cases were rehoused following the incidence of casual vacancies.

A further 78 new applications to the Council's housing list were accepted giving the highest total ever.

The stock of privately owned unfurnished units for renting declined still further.

Rent Act

No applications either for Certificates of Disrepair or for revocation of any previously issued, were received during the year.

Improvement Grants

The year under review was the first full year since the Department became entirely responsible for Improvement Grants under the Housing Act, 1969.

In that period 43 firm applications for grants were made:-

17 Standard Grants were approved totalling £2,528

23 Improvement Grants were approved totalling £17,723

3 Grants were refused.

Of the above, 2 standard grants had a discretionary item and 2 improvement grants were accompanied by applications for Qualification certificates.

Only one grant of the maximum of £1000 was approved.

Four applications approved were for conversions, the largest being for 7 flats and totalled £5,737.

Of the above approved grants payment on completion of work was made in respect of 9 Standard and 10 Improvement Grants.

Despite the increase in applications and in the total amount of grants approved, this has been less than had been expected. The requests for information and preliminary investigation work involved however has been more than anticipated.

All aspects of this work have necessitated a total of 311 visits and a great deal of office time spent in checking and allocating priced specifications, bills of quantities etc.

Being a holiday resort, a number of tentative enquiries regarding Improvement Grants made it apparent that the Council should have a well-defined policy in regard to Grants for conversions of guest houses and hotels into separate flats.

As a result, the Council's policy Committee after consulting interested local organisations defined a policy, now adopted which is in broad terms to:-

- 1) Encourage applications for grants to improve or provide units of private permanent living accommodation.
- 2) To restrict the grant element to a maximum of 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % where premises to which the grant application applies are to be used in part for holiday letting.
- 3) To refuse grant aid in cases where the accommodation improved or provided is entirely for holiday letting.

Holiday Flats and Flatlets

The trend to convert some guest houses and hotels into holiday flats or flatlets continued during the year.

This results partly because the demand for the various kinds of self catering accommodation tends to increase and partly because some owners prefer to be relieved of the responsibility of providing staff, which is increasingly difficult and costly, and also to avoid the responsibility for catering.

During the year it was agreed with the Fire Department that Sec. 60 fire precaution inspections should be carried out in respect of premises, where applicable, on a phased programme similar to that already agreed for hotels.

Food and Drugs Act 1955

a) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

During the year the 1970 Regulations which repeal and replace the above, were published, and come into operation on 1st March, 1971. Whilst repeating the content of much of the existing regulations, the new set do extend the scope and remove some difficulties of interpretation by better phrasing.

Arising from the reorganisation of departmental responsibilities and the staff available it was possible during 1970 to inspect all premises to which the above Regulations apply with a very few exceptions.

This work necessitated 919 visits and resulted in 247 notices of contravention being issued. The majority of contraventions found were in the main, minor or technical. On the other hand absence of specific contravention in no way implies ideal conditions or that improvements are not possible.

The magnitude of this task can be better appreciated if it is realised that of the 941 premises over 700 are only open during the seasonal months.

The importance of this aspect of the work has always been emphasised as this is a holiday resort.

b) Classification of Food Premises

The following table shows the broad classification of food premises under the heading of the main trade or business only.

Subsidiary trading in other categories also takes place at a considerable number of premises. Many premises now sell so many types of goods that it is difficult to select a 'main' trade.

In accordance with Circ. 1/71 Paragraph 9 (b) the information required is given in the following table.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Total No. of Premises</u>	<u>Fitted to Comply Reg. 16</u>	<u>Reg. 19 Applicable</u>	<u>Fitted to Comply Reg. 19</u>
Bakehouses	5	5	5	5
Ice Cream Premises	8	8	8	8
Fishmongers	5	5	5	5
Butchers	14	14	14	14
Greengrocers & Fruiterers	20	20	18	18
Grocers	43	43	43	43
Restaurants & Cafes	75	75	75	75
Kiosks	37	37	31	31
Licensed Premises (full)	40	40	40	40
Bakers & Cake Shops	15	15	15	15
Fried Fish Shops	8	8	8	8
Canteens and Hospital Kits	11	11	11	11
Clubs	15	12	15	14
Sweet Confectioners	37	33	32	32
Old Peoples Homes	3	3	3	3
Wholesale Stores & Warehouses	4	4	4	4
Hotels & Guest Houses	601	444	601	601
TOTALS	941	777	928	927

c) Food Complaints

During the year under review thirteen complaints regarding food were received.

Six of these referred to foreign matter in food. Two of these were found to be vegetable oil and flour dust; two of insects where considerable doubt existed as to when and where the food became contaminated and two cases of foreign bodies where the cases were referred to the local authorities in whose area the food was produced.

Of the remaining seven complaints, four referred to mould and two to taste and one to quality.

No prosecutions were taken in respect of any of the above cases.

d) Food Inspection

In the year, 51 visits were made specifically for food inspection and condemnation.

The total weight of all food condemned and voluntarily surrendered totalled 1,703 lbs. a decrease of over 60% on last year's total.

It should not be inferred that the amount of unfit food has actually been that much less. These figures reflect to a large extent the growing practice of multiple shops and wholesale suppliers, to deal with unsound food themselves, without requesting voluntary surrender certificates from the department.

Information as to the reasons for this policy and more particularly the methods and ultimate disposal of such food cannot be readily ascertained.

The incidence of breakdowns in the refrigeration systems of deep freeze, frozen and chiller cabinets still results in unnecessary food wastage. Regular servicing and maintenance could do much to reduce this. One thing is certain, whether by write off, insurance or any other method, someone has to pay directly or indirectly for the loss eventually.

Food and Drugs Act 1955 - Section 16

The premises registered under the above Act and Section are:-

(a) Registered for the manufacture of sausages and preserved foods	25
(b) Registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream	136
	<hr/>
	161
	<hr/>

During the year four new applications under (b) were received and registrations granted.

During 1970 visits made to food premises totalled 1,118 a very substantial increase on any previous year.

The visits were:-

Hotels and Guest Houses	651
Restaurant and Cafes	65
Licensed Premises	29
Other Food Premises	264
Visits re sampling and inspection of food	109
	<hr/>
	1,118
	<hr/>

Foodstuffs Inspected, Condemned and Voluntarily Surrendered

	lbs.
Tinned Meat (excluding Ham)	58
Tinned Ham	68
Tinned Fruit, Vegetables, Soups, etc.	94
Preserves	11
Poultry	37
Fresh Meat	193
Fresh Fish	122
Frozen Foods	1,033
Sausages and Bacon	<hr/> 87
TOTAL	<hr/> 1,703 lbs.

Ice-cream

During 1970, 27 samples of ice cream were taken. Of these, 21 were of loose ice cream. The results of bacteriological analysis were:-

Provisional Grades

I	II	III	IV
16	6	1	4

All five grade III and IV samples were taken from premises supplied by a producer in a neighbouring district, whose Officers were requested to investigate.

In addition to the above, one sample of water ice was taken with satisfactory result.

Bakehouses

The number of bakehouses in use remained unchanged at five. The types of food produced and the distribution areas also remained without known variation.

During the year one large firm who produce outside the district began the wrapping of uncut bread.

Licensed Premises

Licensed premises within the district comprise:-

(a) Premises with full licence	40
(b) Premises with club licence	6
(c) Premises with off licence	5
(d) Premises with residential, restricted, restaurant or justices licences	119
	<hr/>
	170
	<hr/>

There were no conditions found at any of the premises requiring reference to the Licensing Magistrates.

Inspection of the District

(a)	<u>General</u>	<u>Visits</u>
	Chalet, Caravan and Camping Sites	161
	Drainage	397
	Atmospheric Pollution	21
	Accummulations, Deposits, Odours, etc.	65
	Factories	25
	Insect Pest Control (Incl. Vermin)	154
	Refuse Collection and Disposal	53
	Rodent Control	128
	Water Supply and Swimming Pools	9
	Noise Nuisances	16
	Miscellaneous	240
	Site Meetings	51
	No Access Visits (all)	293
(b)	<u>Housing</u>	
	Premises inspected under Public Health Acts	71
	Premises re-inspected under Public Health Acts	48
	Premises inspected under Housing Acts	143
	Premises re-inspected under Housing Acts	49
	Improvement Grant Visits	298
	Holiday Flats and Flatlets	25
	Housing Application Visits	204
	Visits to Council Properties	154
	Rent Act Visits	13

(c) Food Hygiene

Visits to Hotels and Guest Houses	651
Visits to Restaurants, Cafes, Clubs and Kiosks	99
Visits to Licensed Premises	29
Visits to Bakehouses	25
Visits to Butchers	24
Visits to Fishmongers	11
Visits to Grocers	31
Visits to Greengrocers	10
Visits to Ice-cream Premises	10
Visits to Other Food Premises	29
Visits re Food Complaints	20
Visits re Food Inspection	40
Visits re Food Disposal	11
Visits re Food Sampling	28
Visits to Laboratories	11

(d) Additional

Petroleum	22
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	205
Shops Acts (Closing Hours)	20

(e) Departmental Visits additional to above

Visits by Housing Assistant	1,506
Visits by Rodent Operator	4,122
Visits by Rodent Operator for Inset Pest Control	217
GRAND TOTAL	<u>9,739</u>

Notices

<u>Act</u>	<u>Informal</u>		<u>Formal</u>	
	<u>Served</u>	<u>Complied</u>	<u>Served</u>	<u>Complied</u>
Public Health Acts	41	44	2	3
Housing Acts	16	6	1	1
Food Hygiene Regulations	247	56	-	-
Clean Air Act 1956	2	4	-	-
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960	1	1	-	-
Offices Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963	7	6	-	-
Totals	314	117	3	4

